

# NARCOTICS

includes all incidents in which the police made an arrest, complaint, or warrant for the possession or distribution of illegal narcotics. Narcotics statistics do not include all instances of narcotics use or distribution; they only reflect those cases that are known to the police.

**121 reported in 2003 • 124 reported in 2004**

The Cambridge Police Department's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is a specialized group of individuals who deal with vice activity throughout the city on a daily basis. Targeting drug activity remains the top goal of the unit. Through strategic planning methods the members of this unit attempt to alleviate the burdens bestowed upon society by the culture of drug use and sales. By aggressively pursuing low level street dealers, the SIU, along with patrol officers, is able to climb the drug network and annually arrest top drug suppliers across Cambridge.

Below is a chart containing the geographic breakdown of drug incidents across the thirteen neighborhoods in Cambridge. As shown, Area 4, which includes part of upper Central Square, accounted for the most drug activity. In total, 124 incidents were reported in 2004 and 142 arrests were made.

Geographic Breakdown of Drug Incidents				
Area	2002	2003	2004	% of Total
East Cambridge	12	20	15	12%
M.I.T. Area	4	1	0	0%
Inman/Harrington	5	21	11	9%
Area 4	23	24	22	18%
Cambridgeport	16	16	19	15%
Mid-Cambridge	16	5	8	6%
Riverside	15	15	14	11%
Agassiz	2	1	1	1%
Peabody	3	6	9	7%
West Cambridge	9	3	7	6%
North Cambridge	10	6	15	12%
Cambridge Highlands	1	1	1	1%
Strawberry Hill	3	2	2	2%

Unlike almost all other crimes, the numbers given reflect only arrests and complaints and do not include all drug activity in a particular area. It is impossible to ascertain how many times an individual uses or possesses narcotics during any given time period. A high number of arrests are not necessarily a negative concern as it shows that a high number of drug dealers and users are being taken off the street.

## DRUG ARREST SCENARIOS

There are several means by which a drug arrest develops. In 2004 there were seven different scenarios that resulted in an arrest for drugs. It is important to note that there can be multiple arrests for each drug incident reported.

1. The Cambridge Police Department Special Investigation Unit initiates an investigation or conducts a surveillance resulting in an arrest. Many of these investigations are due to information supplied by confidential sources: **44 cases**
2. A police officer on patrol observes suspicious street activity and upon further investigation discovers narcotics resulting in an arrest: **40 cases**
3. During an arrest for another crime such as disorderly

## DRUG TIP HOTLINE

*The Special Investigations Unit employs an anonymous Drug Tip Hotline to gain intelligence information from the community. The Unit can be reached by calling **617-349-3359**. Generally, you will be greeted by a taped message instructing you to leave very detailed information. **You do not have to provide any personal information and all information is held in confidence.***

conduct, the arresting officer or booking officer finds narcotics on the arrested person: **16 cases** (since this scenario often times occurs at the police station itself, the number of drug incidents for the Riverside neighborhood, where the station is located, can be inflated by as much as five incidents a year)

4. During a routine motor vehicle stop a police officer observes or smells narcotics inside the vehicle resulting in an arrest: **10 cases**
5. A citizen witnesses a person or persons using drugs and complains to the police: **4 cases**
6. A Cambridge school official or court officer observes drugs use leading to an arrest: **4 cases**
7. Miscellaneous circumstances of possession: **6 cases**

The most common drug found during arrests was marijuana with 58 total incidents. This was followed by cocaine/crack (31%), heroin (9%), prescription drugs (6%), and one incident each of a designer drug and hallucinogens. In one incident a drug type could not be established, and 2 incidents involved hypodermic needles, which are illegal to possess without a proper license. *Possession* of an illegal drug resulted in an arrest 65 times. *Possession with intent to distribute*, the carrying of a significant amount of narcotic not for personal use, accounted for 29% of incidents. *Drug Sales* were observed nine times and *trafficking*, the selling, possessing or transporting of copious amounts of narcotics accounted for six percent of drug related incidents.

Among the major arrests for narcotics in 2004 was one incident involving the seizure of over \$14,000 worth of Oxycontin. Another apprehension netted 150 grams of cocaine. SIU detectives, accompanied by Boston Police, raided a residence in late 2004 and found five pounds of marijuana along with thousands of dollars. Also arrested in the process was a subject wanted for attempted murder in Boston.

## Understanding Narcotics

**Note:** The following information was gathered from the following sources: <http://www.drugfreeamerica.com>; [Massachusetts Drug Threat Assessment](#), published by the National Drug Intelligence Center of the U.S. Department of Justice; <http://www.erowid.org>; <http://www.gazettenet.com/12192002/news/2941.htm>; and [http://www.Townonline.com/Lincoln/news/local\\_regional/lin\\_newljdrugs12242002.htm](http://www.Townonline.com/Lincoln/news/local_regional/lin_newljdrugs12242002.htm).



**MARIJUANA** (AKA: grass, pot, weed, bud, Mary Jane, dope, indo, hydro, hemp, cannabis)

Marijuana is the most widely used drug in America. This green or brown dried mixture of leaves, stems, seeds and flowers from the hemp plant is smoked through a pipe, bong or marijuana cigarette often called a joint or blunt, to produce a gradual high. Less common forms of the drug are hashish or hashish oil.

Smoke from marijuana contains 50-70% more carcinogenic hydrocarbons than that of tobacco cigarettes. Besides health factors, marijuana affects a user's alertness, concentration, perception, coordination and reaction time. Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the main active chemical in marijuana, changes the way sensory information gets into and is processed by the part of the brain that is crucial for learning and memory.



**HERION** (AKA: dope, smack, horse, Jude, brown sugar, junk, black tar)

Heroin is a highly addictive drug derived from morphine, which is obtained from the opium poppy. It is a "downer" that affects the brain's pleasure systems and interferes with the ability to feel pain. Heroin can be used in many ways, depending on the user's preference and drug purity. Heroin is fast acting, especially when injected or smoked. Injected heroin reaches the brain in 15 to 30 seconds; when smoked, it causes a reaction in seven seconds. The high from heroin is experienced as intense pleasure. Once a person begins using heroin, they quickly develop a tolerance to the drug and need more and more to get the same effect.

Epidemiologists agree that heroin is the most under-reported drug in terms of usage and that any usage statistics are unreliable. Estimates range from 428,000 past-year users (National

Household Survey, 1995) to 600,000 past week heroin users (Office of National Drug Control Policy). On the other hand, some experts estimate that as many as 2 to 3 million people in the United States use heroin recreationally. In 1980 the average bag of street heroin was 4% pure; the average bag today is 40% pure and can be as pure as 70%. Increased purity results in snorting and smoking rather than injecting. Heroin use in the state has risen sharply over the last decade, particularly among young men ages 18-24, who are buying cheaper and purer forms of the drug.

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**COCAINE + CRACK COCAINE** (AKA: coke, snow, nose candy, flake, blow, big C, lady white, snowbirds, Scar face special, (crack only) rock, freebase, Manhattan marble)



Cocaine is a drug extracted from the leaves of the coca plant. It is a potent brain stimulant and one of the most powerfully addictive drugs. Cocaine is distributed on the street in two main forms: cocaine hydrochloride is a white crystalline powder that can be snorted or dissolved in water and injected; and "crack" is cocaine hydrochloride that has been processed with ammonia or sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) and water into a freebase cocaine. These chips, chunks, or rocks can be smoked.

Cocaine may be used occasionally, daily, or in a variety of compulsive, repeated-use "binges." Regardless of how it is used, cocaine is highly addictive. Crack cocaine and injected cocaine reach the brain quickly and bring an intense and immediate high. Snorted cocaine produces a high more slowly.

Cocaine can produce a surge in energy, a feeling of intense pleasure, and increased confidence. The effects of powder cocaine last about 20 minutes, while the effects of "crack" last about 12 minutes. Heavy use of cocaine may produce hallucinations, paranoia, aggression, insomnia, and depression. Cocaine's effects are short lived, and once the drug leaves the brain, the user experiences a "coke crash" that includes depression, irritability, and fatigue; and long term effects include heart problems, respiratory problems, sleep and appetite problems, and harm to developing children if used by a pregnant woman.

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**DESIGNER DRUGS** (Ex. Ecstasy, X, E)



Designer drugs are a class of drugs often associated with "raves." Designer drugs are modifications of restricted drugs, made by underground chemists in order to create street drugs that are not specifically listed as controlled (i.e., restricted) substances by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Changing the molecular structure of an existing drug or drugs to create a new substance, like Ecstasy (MDMA), creates a designer drug. The street names of designer drugs vary according to time, place, and manufacturer. Because unlicensed and untrained amateurs create designer drugs in clandestine laboratories, they can be extremely dangerous. In many cases, the designer drugs are more dangerous and more potent than the original drug.

The pharmaceutical drug, fentanyl, was originally created for anesthesia during surgeries. Designer drugs derived from fentanyl are extremely potent and have a strong potential for overdose. They have been associated with hundreds of unintentional deaths in the United States. They are also short lived, about 30 to 90 minutes. Increasingly the drug is sniffed or smoked, in part to avoid getting HIV via infected needles. The respiratory paralysis that may occur is so sudden after drug administration that often victims who injected the drug are found with the needle still in their arm.



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**OXYCONTIN**

OxyContin (oxycodone HCl controlled-release) is the brand name for an opioid analgesic - a narcotic. Oxycodone is the narcotic ingredient found in Percocet (oxycodone and acetaminophen) and Percodan (oxycodone and aspirin). OxyContin is used to treat pain that is associated with arthritis, lower back conditions, injuries, and cancer. OxyContin is available by prescription only. It is approved for the treatment of moderate to severe pain that requires treatment for more than a few days.

OxyContin abusers remove the sustained-release coating to get a rush of euphoria similar to heroin. They chew the tabs...crush them for snorting...or boil the powder for injection. The most serious risk associated with opioids, including OxyContin, is respiratory depression. Common opioid side effects are constipation, nausea, sedation, dizziness, vomiting, headache, dry mouth, sweating, and weakness.

OxyContin is oxycodone in a sustained release form and that is why the tablet should not be broken. Taking broken, chewed, or crushed tablets could lead to the rapid release and absorption of a potentially toxic dose of oxycodone.

In 2001 and 2002, there was a surge in robberies of pharmacies carrying OxyContin in Massachusetts. There is so much money to make with OxyContin, that stealing and selling the drug has become irresistible to dealers and addicts who can get their hands on it. As a result, many pharmacies in the area have stopped stocking the drug in order to deter robbers.

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**GHB (GAMMA HYDROXYBUTYRIC ACID)** (*Liquid Ecstasy, Scoop, Easy Lay, Georgia Home Boy, Grievous Bodily Harm, Liquid X, and Goop*)



GHB is known as the “date-rape” drug. This odorless, colorless liquid can be easily dropped into an unsuspecting victim’s drink. GHB is also available in a white powder form. When ingested the victim, often times women, feels drowsy, dizzy, nauseous and suffers loss of memory. Large amounts of the drug have been known to cause death. Sexual assaults are often accompanied with this drug due to the victim’s inability to resist and their lack of memory of past events. In the recent past, this drug has appeared on college campuses and at large dance parties called “raves”.

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**METHAMPHETAMINE** (*Meth, Yaba, Speed, Crank*)



Methamphetamine is a stimulant, which may be prescribed or “home cooked”, and comes in several shapes and sizes. A white powder, chunky crystals, and pills are all available forms. The drug can be taken through injection, snorting, smoking or oral ingestion.

Clandestine labs in California and Mexico are the primary source outputs for meth. Labs are easily movable allowing for a hard approach when targeting distribution. Meth use is on the rise among the American public and is making its way northward from the southern and western parts of the country, where it is more popular.

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## MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION,

or vandalism of property, includes tire-slashing, window-smashing, spray-painting, and a myriad of other crimes in which someone’s property is willfully and maliciously damaged. It is the most commonly reported crime in Cambridge, yet we suspect that vandalism is one of the most underreported crimes; residents and businesses frequently ignore “minor” incidents of vandalism and graffiti.

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### 910 reported in 2003 • 830 reported in 2004

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Neighborhood	2003	2004	% Change
East Cambridge	111	87	-22%
MIT	16	10	-38%
Inman/Harrington	65	70	8%
Area 4	105	90	-14%
Cambridgeport	142	148	4%
Mid-Cambridge	83	63	-24%
Riverside	72	65	-10%
Agassiz	12	18	50%
Peabody	78	80	3%
West Cambridge	66	62	-6%
North Cambridge	106	77	-27%
Cambridge Highlands	31	42	35%
Strawberry Hill	23	18	-22%

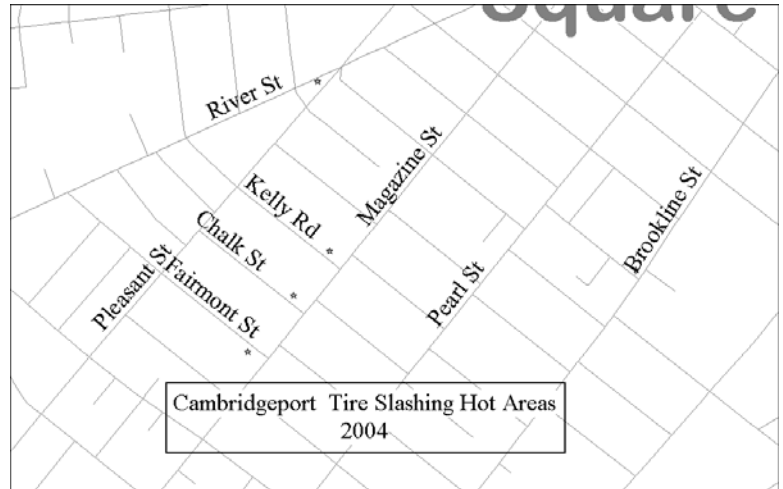
There were 830 incidents of malicious destruction, or “vandalism,” reported in 2004. This is an 8% decrease over 2003. Sharp drop-offs in East Cambridge, MIT, and North Cambridge, contributed to this decrease. Agassiz, and Highlands had the most significant percentage increases in 2004, although they are among the neighborhoods with the lowest reported totals.



## In Focus: Cambridgeport

As the table to the right illustrates, Cambridgeport reported the highest total number of vandalism incidents among all of the neighborhoods.

Cambridgeport reported a number of damage to autos, but most commonly reported tire slashings. Many of the incidents occurred in sprees over one or two evenings. For example, a large spree of tire slashing struck Cambridge on September 10-12<sup>th</sup>, with **32 incidents** reported (23 in Cambridgeport). Incidents were focused on Fairmont (9 incidents) and Chalk Streets (5 incidents). Most fell in the three-block range between Magazine and River Streets. Six police cruisers were included among the targeted vehicles.



Window smashings are also often reported in sprees. For example, five car owners in Cambridgeport reported their windows had been broken one afternoon in September along Brookline and Henry Streets. Overall, six arrests were made for various malicious destruction incidents in Cambridgeport; arrests were for two graffiti incidents, two business window smashings and two auto related damage incidents.

### VANDALISM BY CATEGORY

Category	2003	2004
Car window smashed	213	182
Dents/other damage to car	165	135
Tires slashed or punctured	117	123
Scratches, "pinstripes"	85	61
Attempted theft	42	27
<b>Total Damage to Autos</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>528</b>
Misc. damage at residences	67	64
Window of residence smashed	39	37
<b>Total Damage to Residences</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>101</b>
Window of business smashed	63	38
Misc. damage to businesses	46	34
<b>Total Damage to Businesses</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Graffiti</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>Miscellaneous damage</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>32</b>

Richdale Avenue, which accounted for 14 of the 25 reports.

*The City of Cambridge plays a central role in the eradication of graffiti by coordinating prevention and enforcement efforts, acting as a clearinghouse for graffiti identification and removal, and setting an example by providing good maintenance of its own property. Citizens, community groups, businesses, residential property owners, and other public agencies and institutions are strongly encouraged to work together with the city to effectively combat graffiti.*

#### How You Can Help:

- 1) Use the Graffiti Hotline (349-INFO) to report addresses of vandalized sites.
  - a) To report locations where graffiti exists. The information will be forwarded to the appropriate agency or property owner for removal and to the Police Department for investigation.
  - b) To provide information to help apprehend "taggers." Your information will be kept confidential.
  - c) For information on removal supplies and techniques if you have graffiti on your property.
  - d) For resources to help organize community clean-up days.
  - e)
- 2) Organize community clean-up days.
- 3) Remove graffiti promptly from your property.
- 4) Educate your children about the costs and impact of graffiti.
- 5) Read the U.S. Department of Justice's Problem-Oriented Policing Guide to understanding and responding to graffiti problems <http://www.popcenter.org/Problems/problem-graffiti.htm>

## **Other Graffiti Removal Telephone Numbers:**

### **If you witness someone "tagging" property**

• Cambridge Housing Authority property	<b>Call 911</b> 864-3020
• Traffic Department ( <i>Traffic Signs, Meters, Signals</i> )	349-4700
• Water Department (Fire Hydrants, Fresh Pond Area)	349-4781
• Harvard Real Estate Office (Harvard Property)	495-2234
• Postal Service (Mail Boxes)	876-0620
• MBTA Complaint Line	222-5215
• MDC Bridges, Pools, Facilities	727-5114 Ext. 530
• MIT Real Estate Office (MIT Property)	253-1483
• Middlesex County Courthouse, Registry, Other Facilities	494-4100
• Electrical Department (Pay Phones, Fire Boxes)	349-4925
• School Department Property	349-6854

# **FRAUD**

, larceny under false pretenses, forgery, embezzlement, and confidence games are not included among types of larceny in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting System. Yet in many cases, fraud is a much more serious crime than theft. Victims of check forgery and "con" games stand to lose thousands of dollars. Often added to this loss is the personal humiliation that accompanies being "duped" by a "con man." The confidence game crook, a particularly crafty breed of criminal who has no problem deceiving his victims face-to-face, expects (often correctly) that his victim's embarrassment will deter him or her from reporting the crime to the police.

## **579 reported in 2003 • 438 reported in 2004**

Across the nation, police departments are seeing fraud become an increasingly popular crime. In 2004 there were a reported 438 incidents of fraud and forgery in Cambridge. To date, 35 individuals have been arrested for the various crimes falling under the fraud category since January 2004.

### **Counterfeiting**

In 2004, there were 15 incidents of counterfeiting. In one incident, a man was arrested on Brattle Street with a total of 57 counterfeit \$100 notes. The individual had been purchasing small items under \$20 and receiving real currency in exchange. Nearly all of the incidents in the second half of the year occurred in December, and involved individuals attempting or successfully passing counterfeit bills when making purchases.

### **Application**

Seven incidents of forged applications were reported during 2004. Six occurred at stores in the Cambridge-side Galleria, three of which were reported at Kay Jewelers.

Two arrests have been made in these incidents, one at Best Buy and one at Sears, each of the individuals attempted to open a line of credit with false identification.

### **Bad Check**

This is defined as the writing of checks on insufficient funds or closed accounts. The Cambridge Police took 14 reports for this crime in 2004, two of which resulted in arrests.

<b>CRIME</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Counterfeiting</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Forgery/Uttering</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>279</b>
Application	2	7
Bad Check	22	14
Forged Check	106	64
Credit/ATM Card	227	177
Other/Misc.	97	17
<b>Con Games</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>37</b>
Big Carrot	7	6
Utility Impostor	0	3
Pigeon Drop	3	7
Charity Impostor	0	2
Psychic Swindle	2	1
Odd Jobs/ Housework	3	2
Internet Related	3	8
Miscellaneous	7	8
<b>Embezzlement</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Identity Theft</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>104</b>

### **Forged Check**

Writing a forged check includes any incidents in which a suspect forges the signature of the victim, or changes the amount written on the check. There were 64 forged checks reported in 2004, resulting in six arrests.

### **ATM/Credit Card Fraud**

The most common fraud reported in Cambridge involves the use of credit and ATM cards. There were 177 reports of ATM/credit card fraud in 2004, a 22% decrease over 2003. Nine arrests were made for this crime during the year. Major commercial areas such as the Galleria and Harvard/Central Square are hotspots for this activity.

### **Embezzlement**

This occurs when an employee takes advantage of their position for financial gain, diverting company funds to their own account. In Cambridge this crime has most often involved juvenile store clerks. Historically, retail stores in Harvard Square and the Galleria are most affected by this crime. There were 10 incidents of embezzlement in 2004, half of those occurring at businesses in Harvard Square. Two resulted in arrests of employees, each embezzling from the same location.

### **“Con” Games**

There were 37 swindles, con games or flim-flams in 2004. Many of these incidents involve a suspect using a “con” in order to swindle money out of unsuspecting victims. One individual arrested in 2004 may be responsible for several incidents regarding the resale of plasma televisions around the Galleria mall. Two separate incidents were reported after victims were duped into cashing a fake check on the street for a con artist who claimed to need the money in a hurry. In another type of scam, multiple victims were conned into sending money to a “lottery” in order to claim a prize that they had supposedly won. Four arrests were made overall for this crime in 2004.

**Protect your property and your business!! Please see page 139 for tips on how you can protect against different types of fraud.**

## **SEX OFFENSES**

include six crimes of a sexual nature: prostitution and solicitation, indecent assault, indecent exposure, peeping and spying, annoying & accosting, and obscene telephone calls. Rape is not included because it is a Part I crime.

**86 reported in 2003 • 97 reported in 2004**

### **Annoying & Accosting**

Annoying and accosting a member of the opposite sex is a form of criminal harassment. Often, it involves a man repeatedly following, shouting, making off-color suggestions, hooting, repeatedly asking for a date, or otherwise harassing a woman. It happens most often on the street and in the workplace. Earlier in the year, a suspect called 30-40 rooms at the Radisson Hotel claiming he was lonely and wanted to talk to someone. In another incident, a man approached a 10 year-old boy and his friends asking if they wanted any money, then stated, “Don’t be afraid, come to the store with me to buy some candy.”

### **Indecent Assault**

Indecent assault is the unwanted touching of a person by another in a private area or with sexual overtones. Any incident where force or injury occurs would be considered an aggravated assault rather than an indecent assault. In most cases the victim knows the offender. This was true in 12 of the 31 incidents in 2004.

Seventeen incidents were reported in the first half of 2004, including a spree in Harvard Square that resulted in the arrest of Geremias Cruz-Ramos, who later confessed to over 100 such assaults. There was another spree in January in Harvard Square; the suspect was a male who drove past his victims on a bike and grabbed them

<b>Crime</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Annoying & Accosting	15	15
Indecent Assault	22	31
Peeping & Spying	15	12
Prostitution and Soliciting	3	1
Indecent Exposure	31	29

inappropriately. Two similar incidents with bike riding suspects took place in September. Two additional arrests were made in November of men who assaulted women by grabbing them.

Officers have also been paying special attention to area libraries because three sex offenders were arrested in libraries earlier this year. There is particular concern since so many children use these facilities. Officials are working together with the Director of Libraries and there are trespass notices against these offenders.

### **Peeping & Spying**

Peeping and spying occurs most often when offenders will peer through windows of houses or apartments, generally at night. All the incidents this year have involved men peeking through the windows of women's residences. In some instances, the victims felt that they had seen the suspects following them around elsewhere, and in other cases victims felt that the suspects were casing their house for a later housebreak.

### **Prostitution & Soliciting Sex for a Fee**

Prostitution is commonly associated with "streetwalking," (prostitutes working the streets) but also includes escort services, where a "john" (client) will call and a prostitute will be sent to the "john's" location. In the 1990's, the Special Investigations Unit proactively fought the visible "streetwalking" problem, nearly eradicating this problem in Cambridge. Only one arrest was made in 2004, involving a woman who was arrested for offering sex for a fee at her massage parlor.

### **Indecent Exposure**

Indecent exposure is the offensive display of one's body in public, especially the genitals, often done in a suggestive manner. The main offenders are vagrants or inebriated individuals urinating in public. Nine of the incidents in 2004 involved vagrancy. Twelve incidents involved suspects masturbating in public, categorized as indiscretions. One such incident resulted in an injury of a police officer when he tried to arrest the suspect for masturbating in his car. There were also seven flashings incidents. Seventeen arrests were made in 2004, including the arrest of naked anti-fur protesters in Harvard Square.

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## **OTHER PART II CRIMES**

Under the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, any actual crime not recorded as a Part I Crime (Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny and Auto Theft) is a Part II Crime. The relative infrequency of patterns and trends among these crimes discourages detailed analysis.

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**1,395 reported in 2003 • 1,550 reported in 2004**

<b>Crime</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Disorderly Conduct	43	36
Drinking in Public	42	33
Liquor Violations	1	4
Extortion/Blackmail	1	3
Hit & Run Accidents	698	643
Kidnapping	4	0
OUI	67	65
Threatening	335	366
Traffic Arrests	109	316
Trespassing	78	60
Weapons Violations	17	24

### **Disorderly Conduct**

Police make an arrest for this crime when a person disrupts the peace enough to pose a danger. Examples include bar disputes, homeless altercations, and public shouting of profanity and threats. Thirty-two out of 36 incidents resulted in arrests, and many were reported in Central Square due to its large vagrant population.

### **Drinking in Public**

The 34 incidents of this type resulted in 33 arrests. Most (24) incidents occurred around Central Square. As with disorderly conduct, homeless persons are the primary offenders.

### **Extortion/Blackmail**

This is a rare crime, involving an offender taking money from a victim by threatening them with a nonviolent act. There were three reports of this crime in 2004. Only one of the three incidents resulted in arrest.

### **Hit and Run Accidents**

Hit and runs decreased in 2004 largely due to shorter periods of inclement weather than in 2003. For this reason, most of these incidents are reported in the winter. Four arrests were made.



**Kidnapping**

There were no incidents of kidnapping in 2004. Kidnapping for ransom is extremely rare in Cambridge; most such incidents involve a parent or other guardian assuming custody of a child without consent of the courts or the other guardian.

**Liquor Violations**

Liquor violations generally involve minors drinking, though it can also include the sale of liquor to a minor, or the unlicensed sale of liquor. There were four such incidents in 2004 including the sale of alcohol to minors at a convenience store in Harvard Square in February. This led to a twelve-day suspension of the store's liquor license.

**Operating Under the Influence (OUI)**

Each of the 65 incidents in 2004 resulted in an arrest. This crime occasionally increases during celebrations, which make this year's total seem low considering the Patriots and Red Sox each won championships in 2004. Special attention is given to Harvard, Porter and Central Squares during high activity hours. The majority of incidents have occurred in the Cambridgeport and West Cambridge areas.

**Threatening**

A self-explanatory crime that often arises in domestic disputes, arguments between acquaintances and co-workers, school fights, and in other environments. Though many of these reports are domestic, and other cases often arise due to traffic and parking arguments. A total of 366 such crimes were reported in 2004.

**Traffic Arrests**

The average traffic stop for speeding, running a red light, or related offenses results in only a warning or citation. Some traffic offenses, however, are crimes for which you can be arrested: driving to endanger, driving after suspension or revocation of a license, possession of a counterfeit inspection sticker, and attaching false license plates. Such arrests are often made during routine traffic stops, after the police officer learns of the driver's suspension or revocation. Traffic arrests decreased significantly from 2002-2003 because the courts have requested that summonses be issued for license suspension/ revocation offenses, but totals rose again this year. In 2004 there were 316 traffic arrests. The majority of these arrests were due to suspects driving with suspended licenses.

**Trespassing**

Arrests for trespassing are generally made at establishments where the offender has been previously warned not to tread. Often, the same offender is arrested multiple times. Harvard, Inman, and the Porter Square MBTA station areas are locations where this activity is particularly monitored. These areas are targeted due to the nightlife they attract. Again, homeless persons are often arrested for this crime. Arrests were made in 45 of the 60 reports of trespassing in 2004.

**Weapons Violations**

Incidents in this category may include possession of weapons, the discharge of weapons within city limits and occasionally, bomb threats. Most often, these incidents involve arrested persons in possession of concealed weapons. In 2004, there were eight reports of gunshots fired among the 25 reports of this crime. As many as six of these incidents may have been unfounded.